

DEVICE FOR ADJUSTING THE SPACE BETWEEN ADJACENT KNOTTER ASSEMBLIES ON A KNOTTER DRIVE SHAFT

Abstract of the Disclosure

A knotter arrangement for a large rectangular or square baler includes a plurality of knotter assemblies mounted on a knotter drive shaft. Each knotter assembly includes a knotter drive gear mounted for rotation with, and axial movement along, the knotter drive shaft, and a knotter frame having a sleeve clamped loosely on a hub of an associated knotter drive gear. According to a first embodiment, a pair of jackbolts are screwed into one end of the hub of one knotter drive gear, with the heads of the pair of jackbolts engaging an end of the hub of an adjacent knotter drive gears. In second and third embodiments, for use with knotter drive gears having small diameter hubs, the jackbolts are respectively mounted in either an end face of a spacer mounted on the shaft between adjacent knotter assemblies, or in an end face of a sleeve of the mounting frame that surrounds an elongate section of the drive gear hub. In a fourth embodiment, the spacer includes an internally threaded counterbore which is received on a threaded end of the drive gear hub. In all embodiments, axial spacing between the adjacent knotter assemblies may be accomplished by adjustment of the axially threaded member, i.e., the threaded jackbolt or spacer.